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Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 00227 181418Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----------181445Z 079759 /43
R 172301Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6196

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, CS, OVIP
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT ODUBER'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON

1. EMBASSY HAS LEARNED THAT PRESIDENT ODUBER HAS BEEN TELLING AT LEAST SOME GOCR OFFICIALS THAT HE EXPECTS TO SEE PRESIDENT CARTER WHILE HE IS IN WASHINGTON IN EARLY FEBRUARY. HE TOLD DCM LAST WEEK THAT HIS VISIT WOULD BE UNOFFICIAL AND THAT HE DID NOT EXPECT DEPARTMENT TO ARRANGE ANY MEETINGS FOR HIM. HOWEVER, ODUBER HAS A NUMBER OF INFLUENTIAL PERSONAL CONTACTS IN WASHINGTON, AND HE MAY WELL INTEND TO DRAW ON THESE TO ATTEMPT TO ARRANGE A MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT.

2. WHILE WHITE HOUSE MAY HAVE ITS OWN CRITERIA FOR MEASURING DESIRABILITY OF AN INFORMAL MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENTS CARTER AND ODUBER, SUCH A MEETING IS NOT ESSENTIAL IN CONTEXT OF U.S.-COSTA RICAN RELATIONS. IF MEETING IS REQUESTED BUT NOT GRANTED, WE DOUBT THAT ODUBER WOULD TAKE OFFENSE. HOWEVER, SINCE ODUBER REPRESENTS ONE OF FEW GENUINE DEMOCRACIES IN LATIN AMERICA, HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS IN U.S. COULD FAIL TO UNDERSTAND WHY PRESIDENT WOULD PASS UP OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH ODUBER IN THE FIRST WEEKS OF
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THE ADMINISTRATION. ON THE OTHER HAND, TO HAVE SUCH A MEETING WOULD APPEAR TO ESTABLISH A PRECEDENT FOR ALL LATIN AMERICAN CHIEFS OF STATE WHO MIGHT HAVE REASON TO MAKE UNOFFICIAL VISIT TO WASHINGTON DURING CARTER ADMINISTRATION. THEY COULD BE EXPECTED TO PRESS FOR SIMILAR MEETINGS AND MIGHT FAIL TO UNDERSTAND SHOULD THE PRESIDENT BE UNABLE TO RECEIVE THEM.

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3. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT WOULD SEEM PREFERABLE
FOR ODUBER TO AVOID A WASHINGTON VISIT NOW. WE HAVE NO
REAL BASIS TO ASK HIM TO CANCEL, BUT SINCE OSTENSIBLE
PURPOSE OF VISIT IS TO RECEIVE ALBERT SCHWEITZER CON-
SERVATION AWARD, SHIFTING OF SITE OF AWARD CEREMONY MIGHT
TAKE CARE OF THE PROBLEM. DEPARTMENT AND TRANSITION TEAM
MIGHT WISH TO CONSIDER QUIETLY ASKING SPONSORS OF AWARD
CEREMONY TO CHANGE AWARD DINNER FROM WASHINGTON, D.C.
TO ANOTHER LOCATION, POSSIBLY A NATIONAL PARK OR OTHER
AREA IDENTIFIED WITH PLANT AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION.
SINCE ODUBER IS SCHEDULED TO SPEAK IN NEW ORLEANS
ON FEBRUARY 11, A LOCATION CLOSE TO NEW ORELANS WOULD
BE IDEAL. PRESIDENTIAL INTEREST COULD THEN BE EXPRESSED
EITHER THROUGH A NOTE OR A TELEPHONE CALL.
TODMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SANJO00227
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770018-0661
Format: TEL
From: SAN JOSE
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770145/aaaabnik.tel
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Message ID: 40c9f2d8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 3580561
Secure: OPEN
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Subject: PRESIDENT ODUBER\'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, CS, (ODUBER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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